Variou Regions of the Food Corporation of India have reported 57 cases of thefts entailing a loss of Rs. 15.48 lakhs during 1994-9.5.

(c) The cases have been referred to the police authorities for investigation and launching prosecution against all the guilty.

(d) Keeping in view the storage capacity and the prevailing local condi tions. Food Corporation of India's Watch and Ward staff, State Armed Police and Central Industrial Security Force are deployed to guard the Corporation's godowns. Regular checks on outgoing and incoming vehicles are done totally stocks with gate passes. A procedure for locking, sealing and opening of the godowns has been laid down. Services of local law enforcing agencies are also utilised as and when required. For vulnerable depots, police patrolling is arranged. Physical verification of stocks and surprise inspections of go downs are conducted on a regular basis.

Supply of wheat in Southern States

7644. SHRI R. K. HARI PRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wheat and wheat products are in short supply in Southern States, despite a bumper har vest in the North and all time buffer stock build up with the Food Corporation of India;

(b) whether FCI has! suspended pro curement of what from North Indian markets for want of rail movement faci lities to Southern parts of the country; and

(c) what steps are being taken by FCI to move wheat to South both for Public Distribution System and also to meet the demands of roller flour mills in the South who are on verge of closure due to non-availability of wheat?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The FCI's supplies of wheat to the Southern States for PDS has been satisfactory in relation to the monthly allocations made by the Govt, of India. However, on account of limited stocks available there, it has not been possible to conduct large scale open sale of wheat.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) FCI is making all out efforts to in-crease the loading of wheat rakes for the South by constantly pursuing with the Railways to enhance the allotment of rakes for loading of wheat to Southern States. The issue has been taken up at appropriate levels. The Railways have enhanced the supply of rakes for loading of wheat to Southern States recently.

उत्तर प्रदेश में भारतीय खाद्य निगम में भ्रष्टाचार

7645. श्री ईश दत्त यादव :
चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह :

क्या खाद्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में भारतीय खाद्य निगम के गोदामों में धान को उतारने के लिए ठेकेदारी प्रथा प्रचलन में है जिसके कारण भ्रष्टाचार है; और

(ख) सरकार ने इस प्रथा को समाप्त करने के लिए क्या प्रयास किए हैं ?

खाद्य मंत्री (श्री अजित सिंह) : (क) यद्यपि उत्तर प्रदेश में भारतीय खाद्य निगम के कुछ डिपुओं में धान और अन्य खाद्यान्नों को उतारने के लिए ठेका प्रणाली प्रचलित है लेकिन यह कहना सही नहीं है कि यह भ्रष्टाचार का कारण है ।

(ख) ठेका प्रणाली श्रमिकों को काम पर लगाने की प्रणालियों में से एक प्रणाली है जिसकी कानून के अन्तर्गत अनुमति दी गई है । अनियमितताओं और भ्रष्टाचार को कम से कम करने के लिए निवारक और दण्डात्मक उपाय किए जाते हैं ।